TEACHING THE LITURGICAL YEAR

The Vine and the Branches
(Lower Elementary)

May 2, 2021 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Overview

In this week’s Gospel, Jesus tells us that He is the vine, and we are the branches. Just like the branches of a vine, we must remain in Jesus in order to bear fruit, for, as He tells us, we can do nothing without Him. But how do we remain in Jesus? The simplest answer is through a life of prayer. In this lesson, students will contemplate ways that they can stay close to Jesus.

Directions

A. Read the Gospel passage aloud to your students as they follow along. Then discuss the focus questions with them as a class.

B. Have your students complete The Vine and the Branches Maze. In the blank space around the maze, have your students write ways that they can remain in Jesus so that they can bear fruit.

Answer Key

Focus Questions

1. He is the true vine and His Father is the vine grower.
2. The Father takes away every branch that does no bear fruit and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.
3. We cannot bear fruit on our own unless we remain in Him, just as a branch cannot bear on its own unless it remains on the vine.
4. That we will bear much fruit, and that whatever we ask of Him will done for us.
5. They will be thrown out like a branch and wither, and be thrown into a fire and burned.
6. The Father.
7. Accept reasoned answers, such as read the Bible, go to Mass, receive the Sacraments, help others, and pray.